

A41 unit 1832 is input to a terminal B of each of the addition unit 1833 and the subtraction 1832. An output (A + B) from the addition unit 1833 is input to an OR gate 1834, and an output (A - B) from the subtraction unit 1835 is input to an AND gate 1837.--

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Please amend the paragraph at page 59, lines 14 through 18 as follows. A marked-up copy of the paragraph at page 59, lines 14 through 18 showing the changes made thereto is attached.

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A42 --In this modification, image data of yellow dot portions in an original is smoothed and printed to reduce degradation of the quality of a copied image, thereby properly detecting an additional code in the copied image.--

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Please amend the paragraph starting at page 61, line 22 and ending at page 62, line 2 as follows. A marked-up copy of the paragraph starting at page 61, line 22 and ending at page 62, line 2 showing the changes made thereto is attached.

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A43 --The present invention may be applied to a system constituted by a plurality of pieces of equipment or to an apparatus consisting of one piece of equipment. The present invention is also applicable to a case wherein a program is supplied to the system or apparatus to achieve the present invention.--

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-12 and 29-33 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.